

MP3 PLAYER FOR VEHICLES

ABSTRACT

A portable or mobile MP3 music player that may be used in a vehicle and as a portable personal music playing device that is carried by a user. An exemplary player comprises a detachable faceplate or faceplate controller of a vehicle audio system. The player includes memory devices that store downloaded music files. A communication interface interfaces between an external computer and the memory devices and is used to download music files to the player. A microprocessor is coupled to the memory devices and the communication interface and controls operation of the player. An audio interface permits music files to be played through a vehicle audio system. A headphone interface permits the music files to be played through external headphones. A receiver is coupled to an antenna that permits reception of radio broadcasts which may be listened to through the headphones. The faceplate may be used as a handheld device with headphones connected to it, or may be attached to the vehicle stereo system so that music may be played therethrough.